

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 129

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Laura Watkins on her selection as the 2018-2019 Russellville Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Laura Watkins is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Watkins has recently been named the 2018-2019 Russellville Elementary School Teacher of the Year, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, a teacher for twenty-nine years, Laura Watkins has taught second grade for eighteen years; she received her bachelor's degree from East Tennessee State University and her master's degree in reading and literacy from Walden University; and

WHEREAS, Laura Watkins is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, a leader in her field, she serves as grade level chair and grade level Professional Learning Communities leader, and she also serves as a mentor teacher; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Watkins serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, her many professional accomplishments aside, Laura Watkins is most appreciative of the love, support, and companionship she shares with her husband of twenty-nine years, Tony Watkins; her children, Jake and Maddie; and her granddaughter, Aubree Grace; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Watkins truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Laura Watkins on being chosen as 2018-2019 Russellville Elementary School Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.